

USBORNE FIRST READING



# The Boy Who cried Wolf

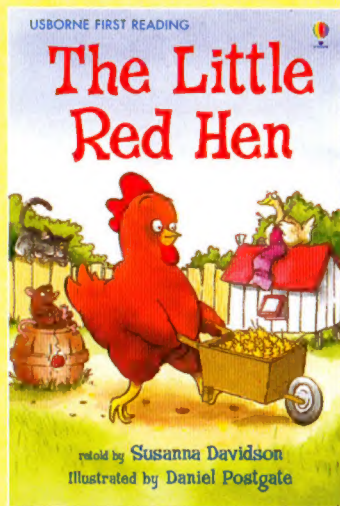
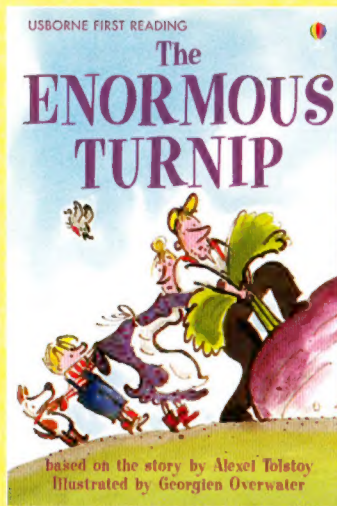
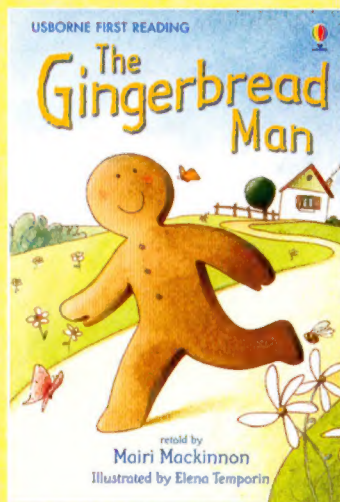
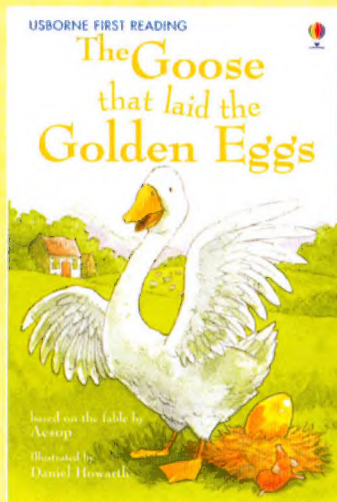
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Mackinnon



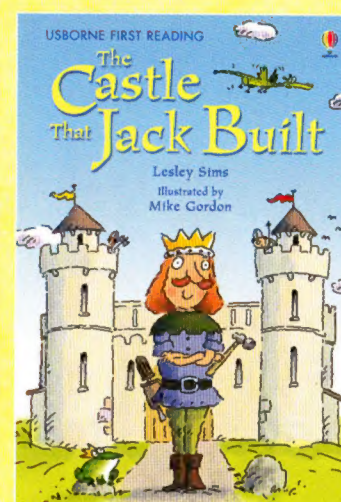
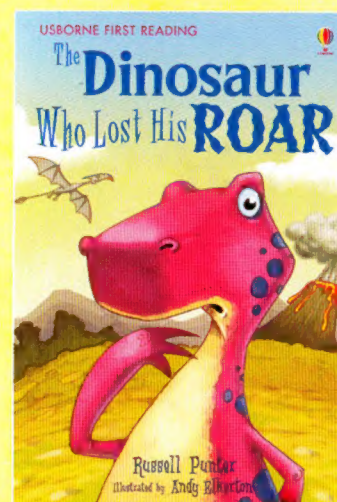
Illustrated by  
Mike and Carl Gordon



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# The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Based on a story  
by Aesop



Retold by Mairi Mackinnon

Illustrated by  
Mike and Carl Gordon

Reading Consultant: Alison Kelly  
Roehampton University

This story is about

Sam,



some sheep,

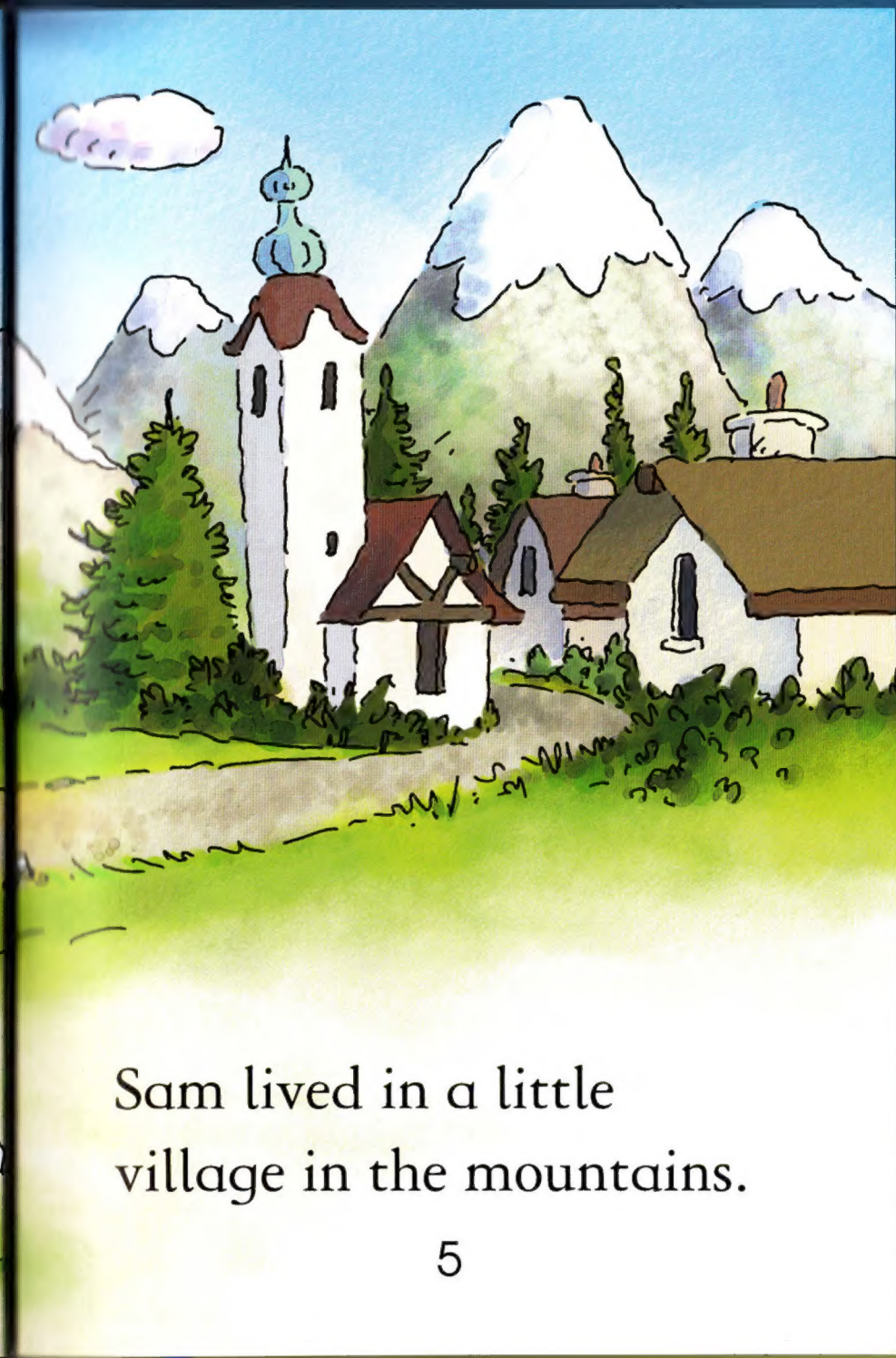
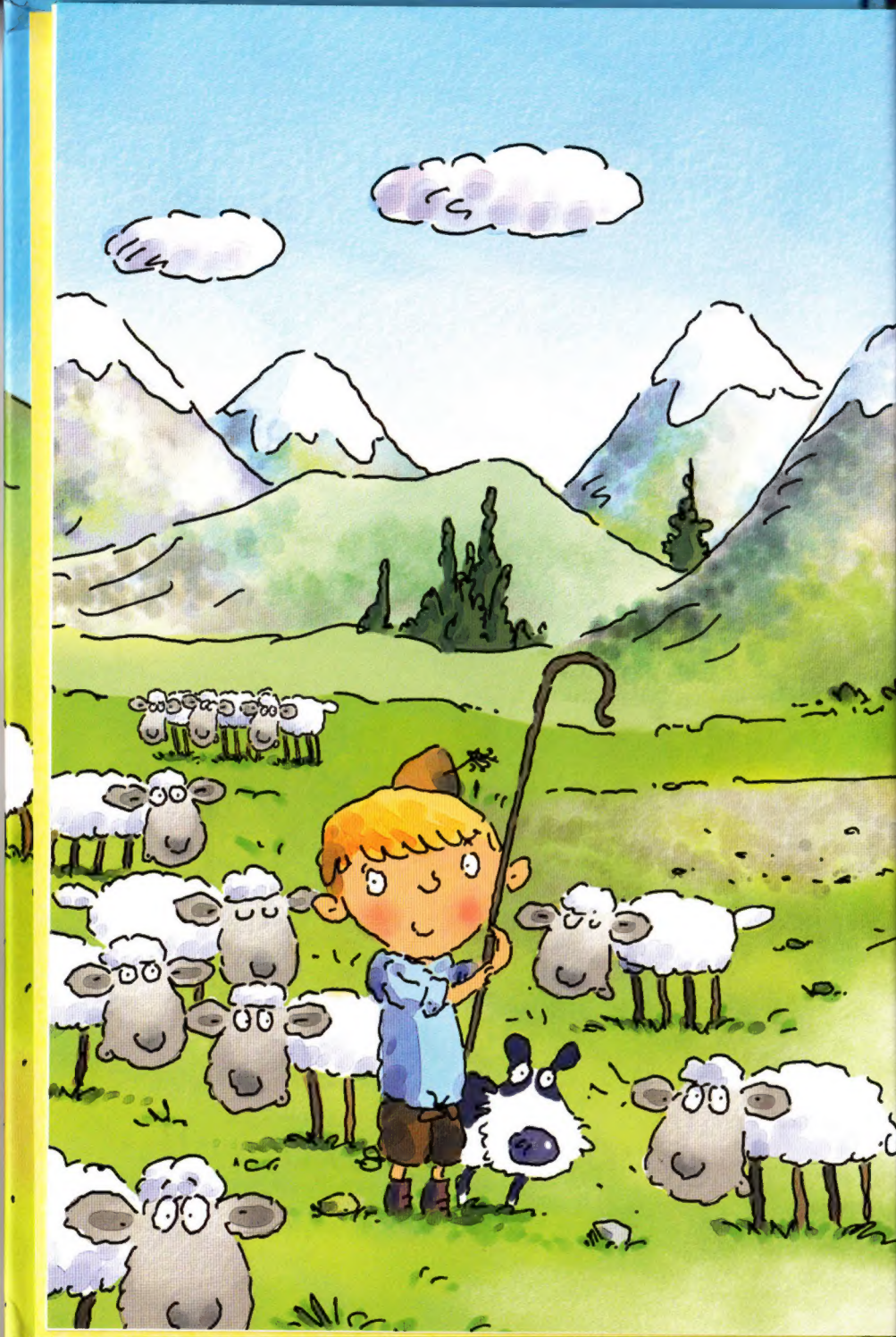


the villagers



and (maybe) a wolf.





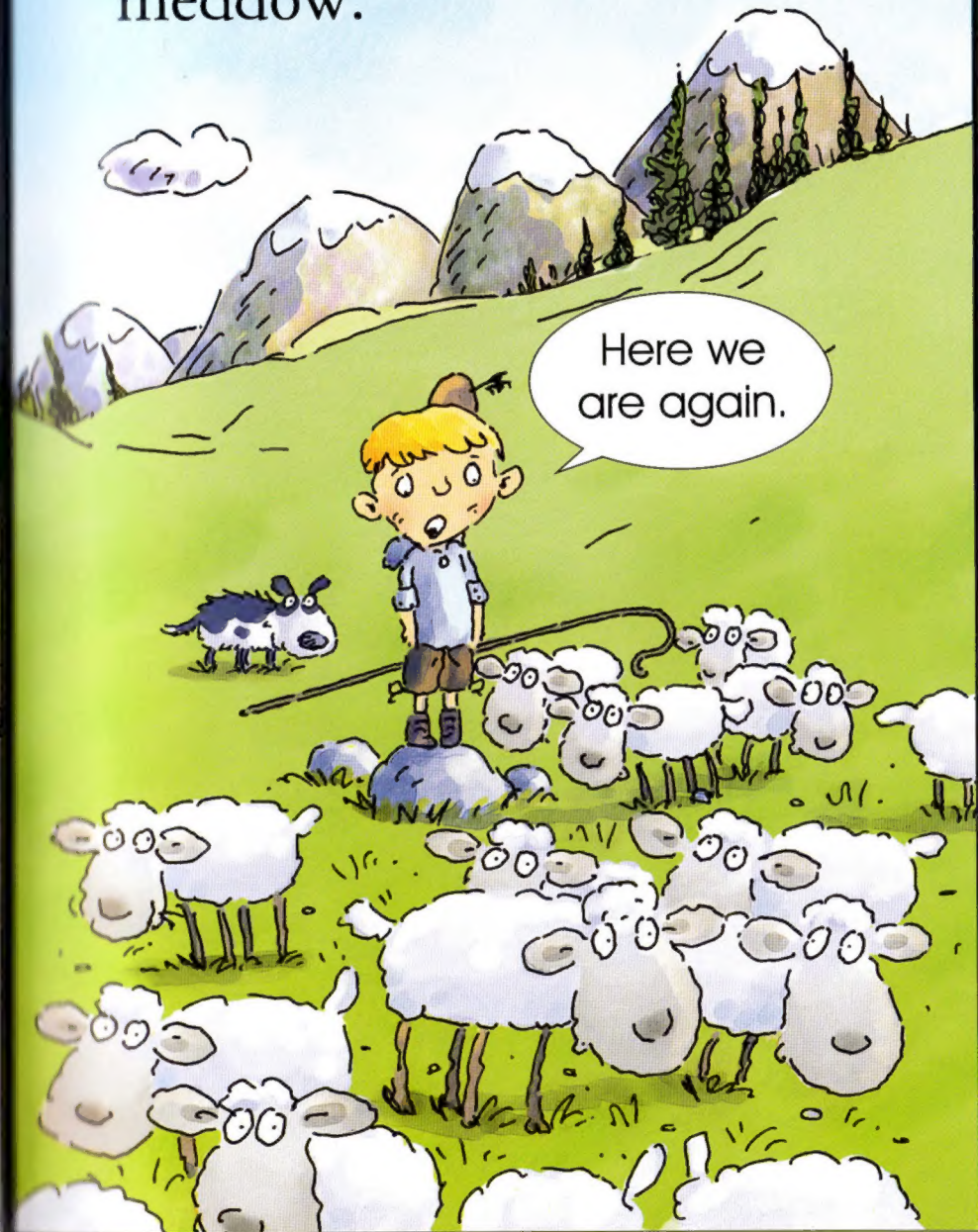
Sam lived in a little  
village in the mountains.



Every day he took the  
sheep from the village...

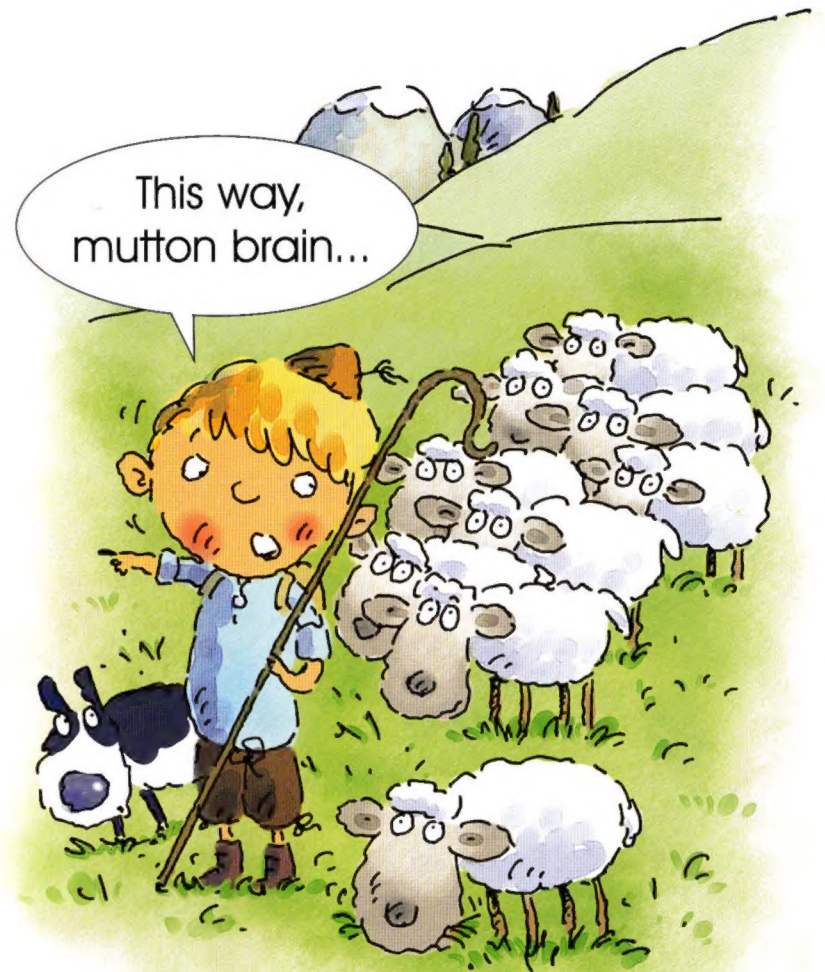


...up the hill to a grassy  
meadow.





He watched them from  
morning until evening.



Then he took them home  
again.



Every day was the same.



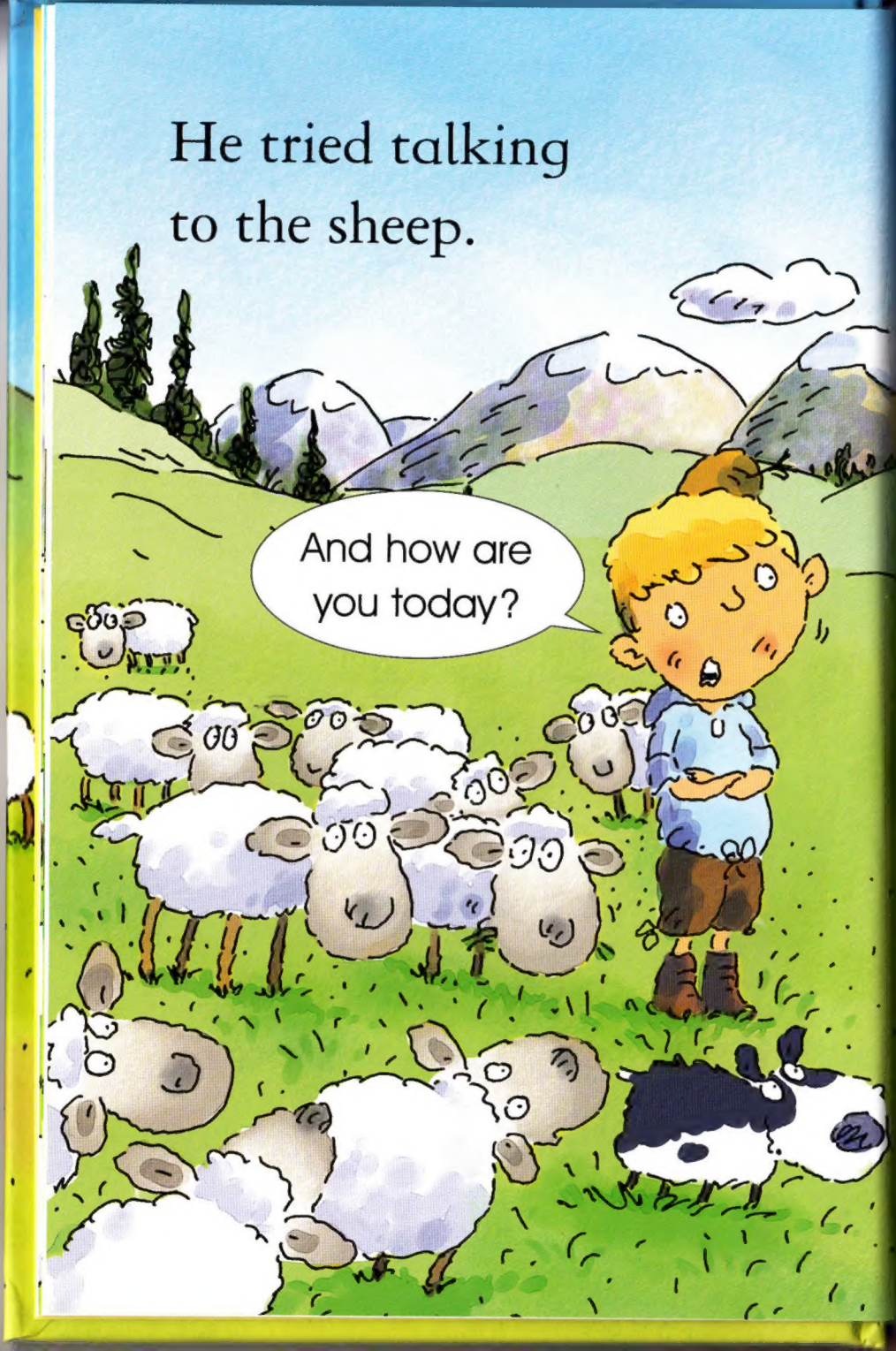
Sam was lonely and he was SO bored.



All his friends were down in the village.



He tried talking  
to the sheep.



And how are  
you today?



Baa-aa.

But they didn't  
have much to say.



"Nobody ever comes up here," moaned Sam.



"Nothing ever happens."

One day, he had an idea.

I could  
make something  
happen.





He ran down the hill to  
the village.



"A wolf!" he shouted.

"A wolf has come out of  
the forest!"

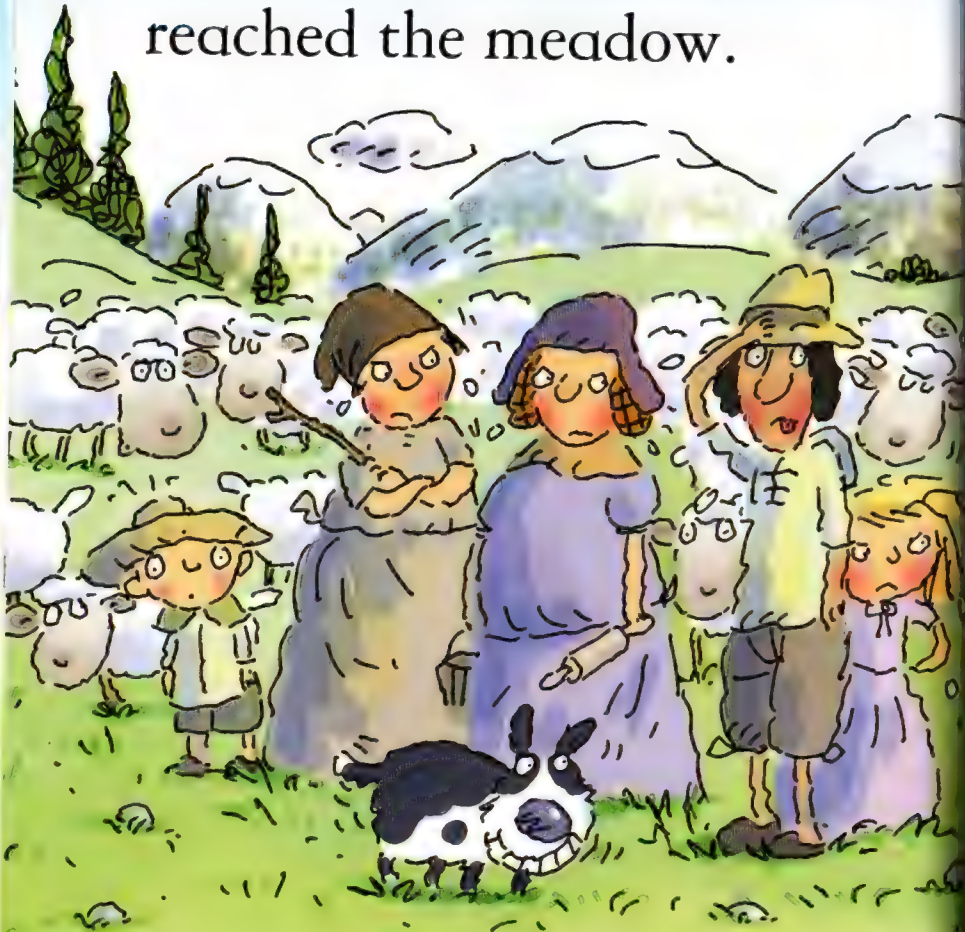


Everyone ran up the hill  
with him.





Puffing and panting, they  
reached the meadow.



Of course, there was  
no wolf.



The sheep were quietly  
eating their grass.



The villagers were angry,  
but Sam just laughed.





A few days later, Sam was bored again. He ran down the hill to the village.



"A wolf!" he shouted.

"A wolf has come out of the forest!"



Some people didn't believe him.

Oh yes?



We'd better make sure.



But most ran up the hill to see.



Puffing and panting, they  
reached the meadow.



Of course, there was  
no wolf.

The sheep were quietly  
eating their grass.



Everyone was very angry,  
but Sam just laughed.



A week later, Sam was bored again. He ran down the hill to the village.

Help, help!  
There really is  
a wolf!



Most people didn't believe him this time. Just a few ran up the hill.

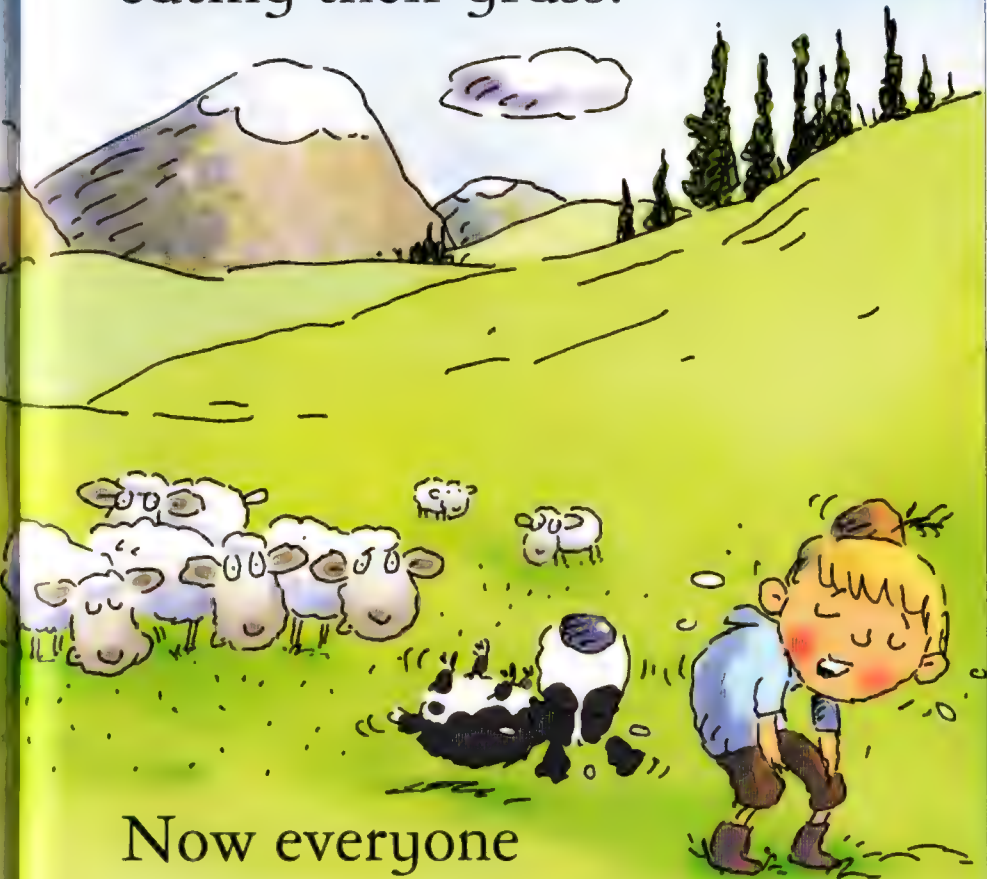


Puffing and panting, they  
reached the meadow.



Of course, there was  
no wolf.

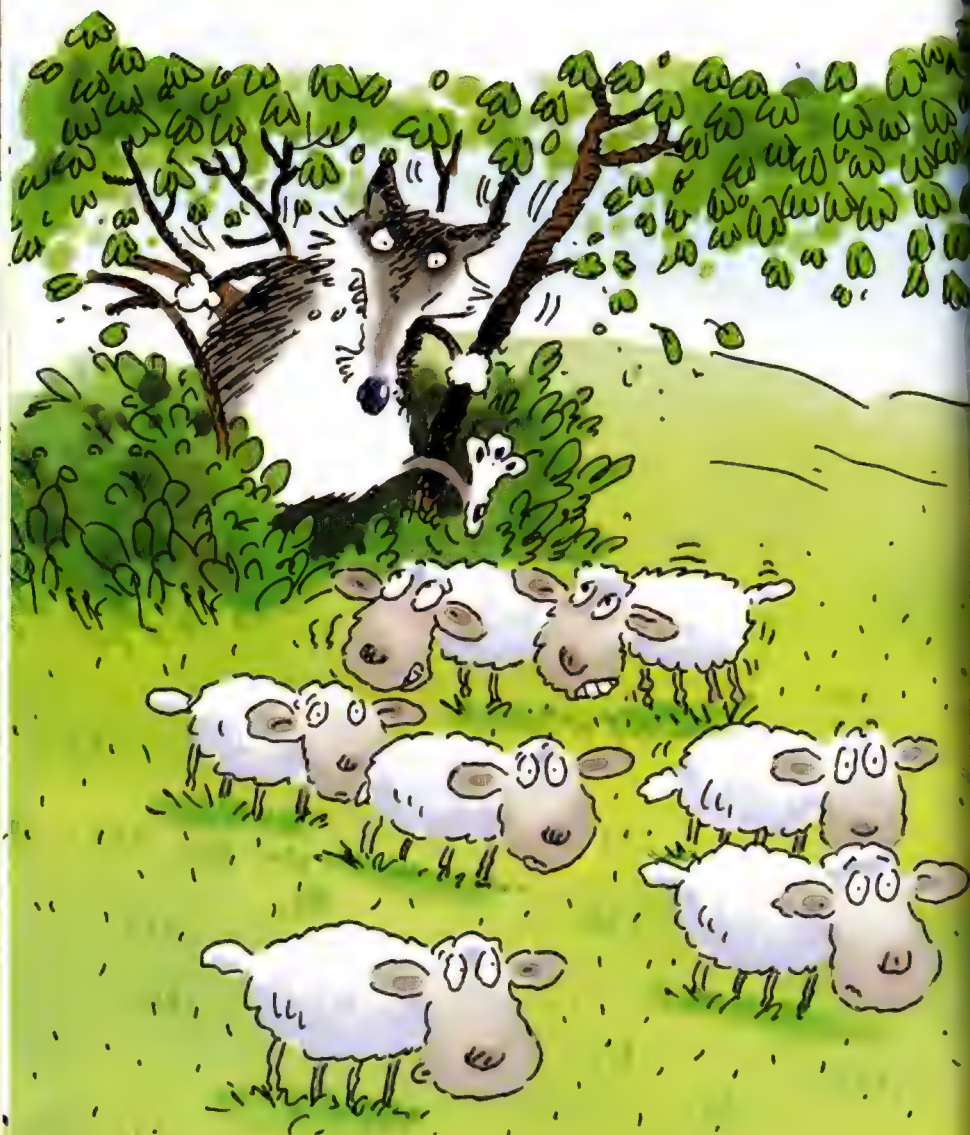
The sheep were quietly  
eating their grass.



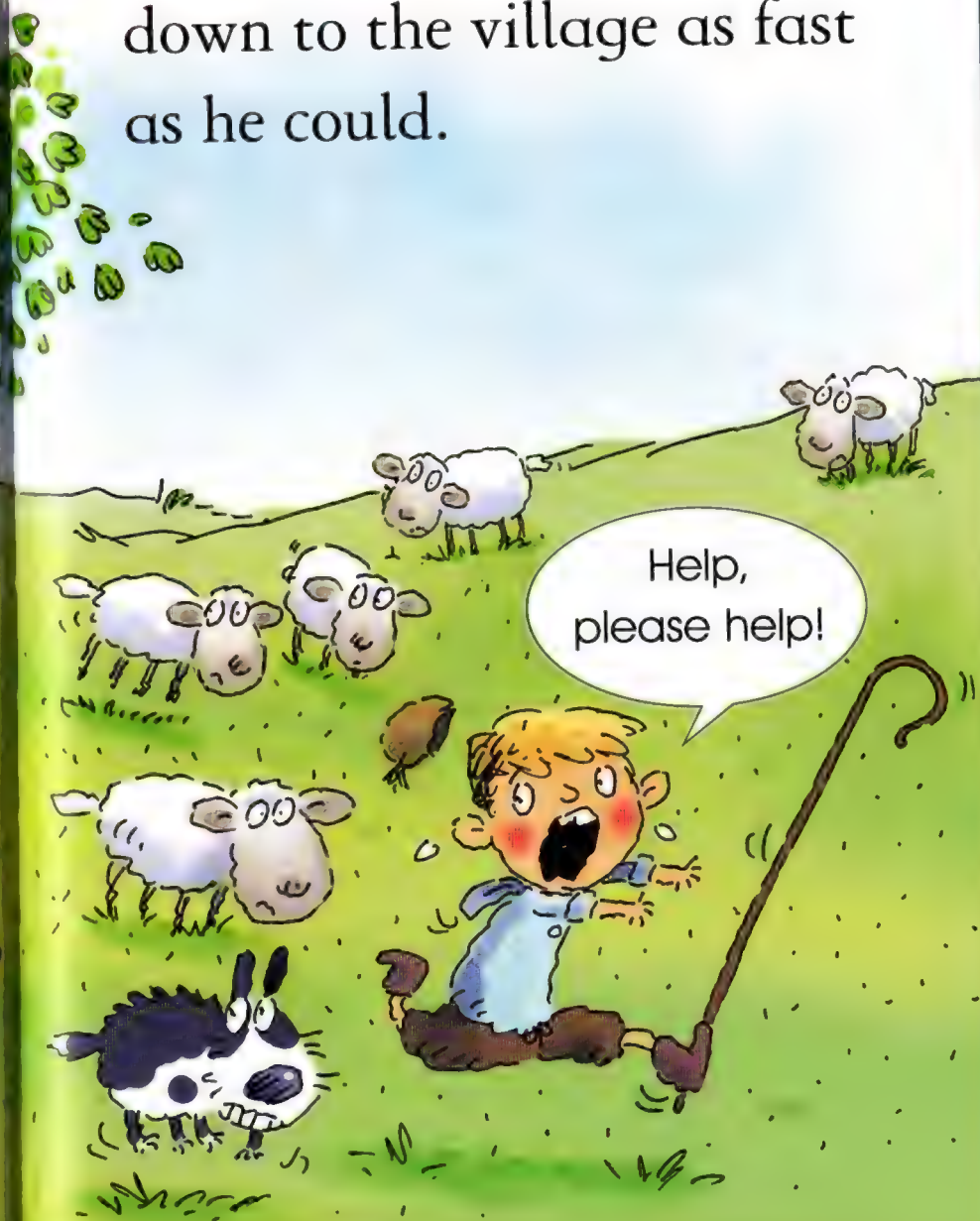
Now everyone  
was furious. Sam  
laughed and laughed.



A few days later, a wolf  
DID come out of the forest.



Sam was terrified. He ran  
down to the village as fast  
as he could.





Nobody believed him.



Sam begged them to  
come with him.



This time, they just  
laughed at him.



In the end, Sam had  
to go back up the hill  
all alone.



The wolf had killed some  
of the sheep.



The rest had  
run away.



Sam stayed in the meadow  
until it was dark.



Finally, the villagers  
came to find him.





“Why didn’t you believe me?” he asked.



“You always told lies before,” they said.



“I’ve learned my lesson.  
Never again,” said Sam.



About this story

“The Boy who cried Wolf ”  
is one of Aesop’s (say Ee-sop’s)  
Fables. These are a collection  
of short stories, first told in  
Ancient Greece around  
4,000 years ago.



Nobody knows exactly who  
Aesop was, but the stories  
are still popular today, and  
they are known all around  
the world.





The stories are often about animals, and they always have a “moral” (a message or lesson) at the end.



The moral of the story about the boy who cried wolf is:

No one believes liars, even when they tell the truth.





Series editor: Lesley Sims  
Designed by Michelle Lawrence



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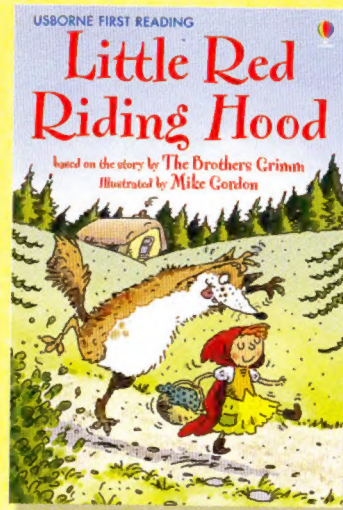
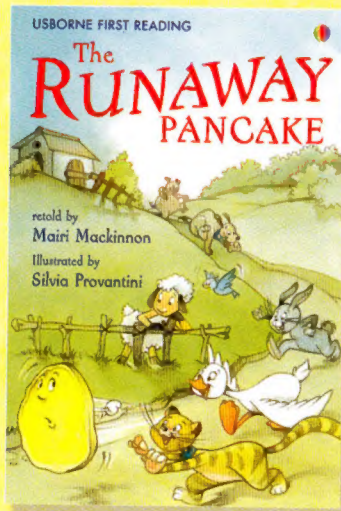
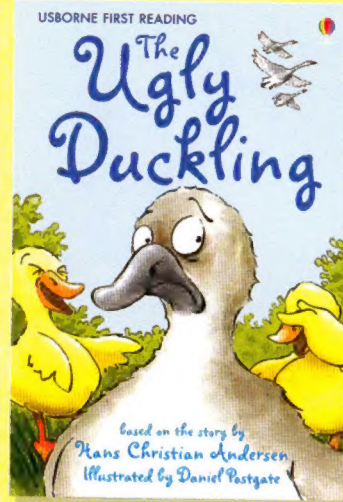
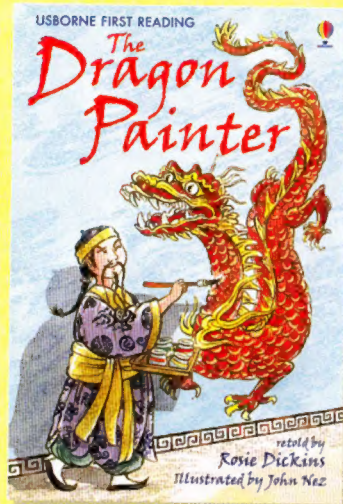
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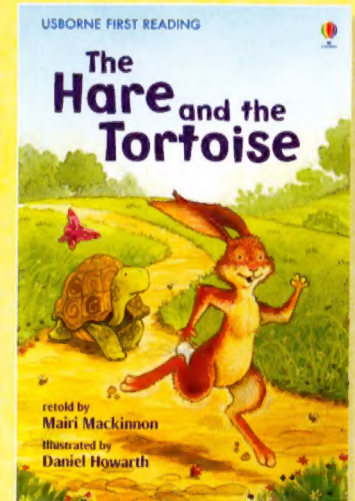
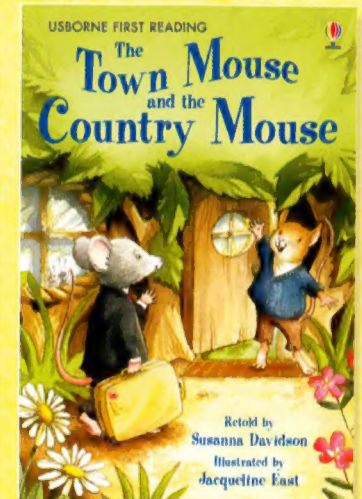
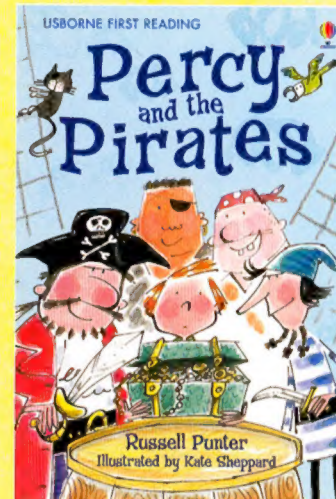
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USBORNE FIRST READING: LEVEL THREE



# The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Every day, Sam takes the same old sheep up the same old mountain. What can he do to make life a little more exciting? Find out in this lively retelling of the classic story by Aesop.



The **Boy who cried Wolf** is in the **Usborne First Reading** series, written especially for children who are learning to read, and developed in consultation with Alison Kelly, Senior Lecturer in Education and reading specialist at Roehampton University. With delightful illustrations, these books combine great stories with simple text to excite and inspire any beginner reader.

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